162 mentioned any "barbarians" even in the two southernmost provinces of East China, Chekiang and Fukien.[2] This fact does not indicate that there have not been remnants of non-Han ethnic groups in East China, but that most of them have adopted Han Chinese culture.[3]

II. THE HAN CHINESE

162 144 The Han Chinese in East China can be divided into two groups according to the different elements assimilated. Those north of the Yangtze River are taller and more akin to the Han Chinese in North China in racial composition, an admixture of Han Chinese and northern tribal elements such as the Tungus, Hsien-pei, Hsiung-nu, Nü-chen, Mongol, and Manchu. (See the chapter on Historical Setting.) Those south of the Yangtze River, particularly in the provinces of Chekiang and Fukien, are an admixture of the Han Chinese and the aborigines known in the earliest records as Tung Yüeh in Chekiang and Min Yüeh in Fukien, and in later records as Yao in general.[4] (For cultural characteristics of the Han Chinese in East China, see the chapters on Family and Social Structure.)

III. NON-HAN ETHNIC GROUPS

A. The She of Chekiang and Fukien

During the early Han Chinese migration from North China, the Wu-i Range blocked the

2. Ibid., pp. 249-250.

3. Those who refused to adopt Han Chinese culture migrated southward into Kwangtung and Kwangsi. 4. [see next page]

162 144 drive east toward the Sea. Fukien and southern Chekiang were thus by-passed by the Han Chinese, who settled in Kiangsi, Kwangtung, and Kwangsi long before they reached Chekiang and Fukien.[5] In addition, the people of the mountainous area in Fukien and Southern Chekiang, having developed a fairly high degree of political organization by third century B.C., were able to put off direct Han Chinese rule for a longer period of time than people in areas to the west of it, i.e., Kiangsi and Hunan.[6] The southward exodus of the aborigines, who made way for the Han Chinese, was in fact never completed, and today descendants of the aborigines are still to be found in Fukien and southern Chekiang. They are a branch of the

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4. Compared with the Chinese in South and Southwest China, the northern Chinese are generally taller, have longer and larger heads, relatively lower foreheads and cheekbones, lighter skins, and a less pronounced development of the almond-shaped eyes. Although the northern Chinese are more uniform in appearance than their compatriots in South and Southwest China, they are still a very mixed group; and the fact that they speak a more or less common dialect by no means indicates lack of diversity in their ethnic composition. Li Chi, op. cit., p. 167.

5. Harold Wiens, China's March toward the Tropics, Hamden Conn., The Shoe String Press 1954, p. 8.

6. Ibid., pp. 276-277.

162 Yao people mentioned in Chinese historical records, and are related to the Yao people in
144 Kwangsi. Today, these remaining aborigines are called She Yao, Hsia, or more commonly, She.

162 The total She population is now estimated at 200,000. The great majority are found in Fukien particularly in the Wu-i mountain region of Chien-ning and Ch'ang-ting districts. Only about 44,000 are at present living in the southern section of the Kuo-ts'ang mountain chains near Li-shui in Chekiang Province.[8] Lan, Lei, Chung, and P'an are the four surnames of the She people; intermarriage is approved only
241 among families bearing these names.[9] They are poor slash-and-burn farming folks like the Miao and Yao in South China. (This type of agriculture entails burning off the natural vegetation on the mountain slopes to enrich the soil for planting; but the fertility of the soil is exhausted after two to four years, and the farmer
197 must move on.) Those who work for the Han landlords usually speak the local Chinese dialects.[10]

563 Regionally as well as nationally, the She people are still as much neglected by the Communist administration as they were during

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7. The Yao people of Chekiang and Fukien fled to remote mountain regions after the Yao suppression campaign of Wang Shou-jen during the Ming dynasty. Ibid.
8. Ibid.
9. Ibid.
10. Ibid.